



Daily Report—

Sub-Saharan Africa

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Daily Report

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**Inter-African Affairs: 40 States Consent to Treaty
on Nuclear-Free Zone**

*NC0904141096 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1310 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] Cairo, 9 Apr (MENA) — Ambassador Sa'id Qasim al-Masri, assistant foreign minister for multilateral relations, said that Egypt so far received the consent of 40 African states to sign a treaty declaring a nuclear-free zone in Africa.

Ambassador Qasim said that the treaty calls on the five major nuclear states to sign the first and second protocols, in which they pledge not to attack or threaten to attack member states and not to test, help, or encourage any party to test nuclear weapons.

Ambassador al-Masri pointed out that a number of states have expressed their desire to address messages to the conference, including Russia, China, and Ukraine.

The Egyptian official pointed out that the treaty calls for sparing the African continent the risks involved in nuclear weapons and for supporting the peaceful applications of atomic energy.

The ambassador noted that Egypt was the birthplace of the idea of the treaty in 1964 and that it is playing a significant role in putting this treaty into effect.

**Inter-African Affairs: OAU—Danger in Liberia,
'Collective Shame' in Rwanda**

*AB1004113596 Accra Ghana Broadcasting
Corporation Radio Network in English
1800 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The OAU has warned of a new dangerous and unacceptable escalation of the conflict in Liberia and urged all faction leaders to exercise utmost restraint and end the war. In a statement in Addis Ababa, the OAU secretary general, Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim, said the warring leaders should ensure security and stability in Monrovia and the whole country within the context of the Abuja Agreement. He recalled that during his recent visit to Monrovia, the faction leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the peace process, but the current fighting is a serious setback. Dr. Salim said Liberia is expected to be the focus of next week's summit of the OAU's conflict resolution mechanism to be attended by 16 African leaders in the Ethiopian capital.

On Rwanda, the OAU secretary general said the mass murder of, at least, 1 million people there was a collective shame, not only for Rwanda, but also for Africa and the international community.

Burundi**Burundi: UN Envoy on Authorities' 'Tension' With Political Dialogue**

LD0804163796 Paris Radio France International in French 0730 GMT 8 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] This bulletin's special report is devoted to Burundi, where violence has again just spread: The south has now been hit. This new outbreak of clashes has also led the new UN representative to appeal for reason. Mr. Marc (Faguy) [new UN representative] is interviewed by Georges Abou:

[Begin recording] [Faguy] Groups of attackers have decided to extend their actions to the south of the country, towards Makamba Province, towards Bururi Province; and so we are now experiencing an extremely precarious situation. Initially, we think we have heard of gangs of attackers sometimes numbering over 100, which seems to indicate that a certain degree of organization exists.

[Abou] And given the deterioration of the military situation in Burundi, do you sense any willingness on the part of the Bujumbura authorities to try and overcome the rift and attempt to reach a political solution, as that is the gist of your appeal?

[Faguy] Indeed. You know, the UN Security Council at the end of February voted for Resolution 1049, whose main aim was precisely to appeal for political dialogue as urgently as possible. The international community — and the United Nations of course — very directly supports the efforts of President [Julius] Nyerere, the former president of Tanzania, who is in fact expected here in Bujumbura this week, in a few days' time. We strongly back President Nyerere's efforts. We think it is essential for political dialogue to begin again very quickly. It is the only solution we can make out to the country's very precarious situation; and we are going to watch very closely what happens over the next few weeks regarding the possibility of this political dialogue.

[Abou] You have been in the country for three months now. What feeling do you get from the Bujumbura authorities? Willingness to go down this road, or rather heightened tension in the face of the deterioration of the military climate?

[Faguy] Listen, I think that officially there is a position which is taken by the government and by the Burundi authorities, to the effect that, well, there will be a discussion of a political nature on the country's problems; but at the same time, with the events of the last few weeks, I think there is a definitive heightening in tension on the part of certain authorities within the government, who of course have difficulty envisaging a dialogue which could open up and which would include all the parties

concerned or with an interest in the debate. [end recording]

Cameroon**Cameroon: Court Ruling on Extradition of Rwandans Expected by Weekend**

AB0804191796 Paris AFP in French 1539 GMT 8 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Yaounde, 13 Apr (AFP) — The trial for extradition of 12 Rwandan officials of the former regime detained in Yaounde should take place "by the end of the week," it was stated from judicial circles in the Cameroonian capital.

"We finished hearing their statements on 5 April and the case is expected to come up for trial by the end of this week," an official of the Yaounde Appeals Court told AFP.

The court is expected to rule in favor of or against the extradition to Rwanda of these 12 Rwandan refugees in Cameroon who have been accused by the government in Kigali of playing an active role in the genocide. Colonel Theoneste Bogosora, one of the personalities whose name appears on the list, has already appeared before the court which decided on his extradition to Belgium, but the presidential decree authorizing the extradition has not yet been signed by President Paul Biya.

Rwanda**Rwanda: Authorities Seize Zairian Plane After Emergency Landing**

LD0904153796 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Kigali says it has found weapons on board the Air Zaire Boeing-737 seized on its territory 48 hours ago.

The aircraft, operating between Kinshasa, Goma, and Bukavu, had to make an emergency landing at the nearest airport because of bad weather. The aircraft has since been stuck at Kamembe with passengers on board.

The Rwandan authorities regularly accuse Zaire of letting weapons through to Rwandan Hutu exiles who have settled in the east of its territory.

Rwanda: Authorities Reportedly Find Weapons on Seized Zairian Plane

AB0904204296 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 9 Apr 96

[From the "African News"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The authorities in Rwanda say they have found ammunition on board a Zairian airliner

which landed in southwestern Rwanda on Sunday [7 April]. A Rwandan Defense Ministry spokesman said that the plane, with 35 people on board, landed without permission at Kamembe airport, near the border town of Cyangugu.

The spokesman said that rounds of ammunition had been found on board but it was certain where they were bound. He said the plane's cargo was still being searched.

Zaire, for its part, has accused Rwanda of seizing the plane. Zaire said the airliner had been on a flight from Kinshasa when bad weather forced it to make an emergency landing.

Rwanda: Radio Reports on Zairian Plane Make No Mention of Weapons

EA0904170296 Kigali Radio Rwanda in English
1145 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Reports from Cyangugu Prefecture [southwest] said that on Sunday [7 April] at (?three) PM, a Zairean plane Boeing 737 belonging to Air-Zaire company landed at Kamembe airport in Cyangugu without authorization. The pilot said that the incident was caused by unfavourable weather, which was rainy and cloudy at Kavumu airport in Bukavu, Zaire, where the plane was supposed to land. Hence he found himself landing in Cyangugu instead of Goma [as heard]. The pilot said that the communication between Kamembe and Kavumu was not operational. He, however, added that he informed the authorities in Goma.

The plane, which was carrying two pilots, seven employees of the plane and 27 passengers, was heading from Goma to Bukavu.

Commenting on the incident, the prefect of Cyangugu (Theobald Sinuza) said that the weather in Bukavu where the plane was supposed to land was favourable and in any case the weather in Bukavu is always similar to that of Cyangugu.

Cyangugu administration tried to contact the governor of Kivu region for talks regarding the incident but up to now he has not availed himself. [Word indistinct] said that he would send representatives of Air-Zaire, but finally it is the Zairean military personnel who came, whom the prefecture administration said were not the right people to discuss the matter with [word indistinct] they here not given the audience.

(?More so), the governor of Kivu region in Zaire wrote to the prefect of Cyangugu demanding for the plane. He said that if the plane was not sent to him, the Zairean authorities could collect it themselves. However, the people who were in the plane are well catered for.

Meanwhile, concrete investigations into the matter are being carried out by the officials of the Ministry of Transport and Communication.

Of late, there have been reports of insecurity mostly caused by former government forces who are occupying (Mpazi) camp, neighboring Cyangugu prefecture. [passage indistinct]

Rwanda: Bizimungu Accuses France of Making False Statements About Country

AB0904225396 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1215 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] France was attacked by the Rwandan authorities on the occasion of the commemoration of the second anniversary of the genocide. The relations between the two countries were discussed at length by Kigali.

In his speech yesterday at Murambi in the Gikongoro Province in the southwest of the country, Rwandan President Pascal Bizimungu accused Paris of manipulating information to make people believe that a second genocide of Hutus by the Tutsi-dominated Army is currently going on in Rwanda. France, Pascal Bizimungu stressed, has sent journalists to Rwanda with preconceived ideas to discredit the Kigali regime and hide its [France's] involvement in the genocide.

Pascal Bizimungu also took to task the international community which, according to him, has set up an international tribunal on Rwanda but has now allowed those who committed the genocide to move about freely.

It will be noted that the intervention of the Rwandan head of state contrasts more or less with the situation on the ground. Indeed, national radio last week announced the death of 34 persons in western Rwanda in a clash between the Army and assailants from Zaire. The radio did not give any explanations on the identity of the victims, but the Forces of Resistance for Democracy of former Prime Minister Faustin Twagiramungu said most of the victims were women and children. The clash took place during the night of 5 April in the region of Kibuye.

Rwanda: VP Kagame Refutes Accusations Against Army

BR1004140096 Paris LIBERATION in French
9 Apr 96 p 8

[Interview with Paul Kagame, Rwandan vice president and defense minister, by Marie-Laure Colson in Kigali; date not given: "Paul Kagame Defends Rwandan Army"]

[FBIS Translated Text] [Colson] A number of human rights organizations are accusing your government, and

in particular the Rwandan Patriotic Army [RPA], of arbitrary killings and arrests. Is there any truth in this?

[Kagame] The killings these organizations are talking of are not all for the same cause. These could be revenge killings against people suspected of genocide. However, while I cannot approve of them these murders cannot be considered, as things stand at the moment, in the same way as ordinary crimes. Other crimes are being perpetrated — and I am amazed that nobody ever talks about them — by militiamen who come over the border from Zaire or Tanzania to silence the witnesses of the genocide. These actions are also targeted at town councillors and mayors and are part of a campaign of intimidation looking to destabilize the government. Finally, some criminals do get killed in their encounters with our Army. In these groups of 20-30 people some are armed and others are not, and in the confusion unarmed civilians may get killed. This is sometimes misinterpreted when their bodies are recovered.

[Colson] So you are saying that these accusations are false?

[Kagame] Absolutely. RPA soldiers may be responsible for crimes connected with the causes that I have just mentioned. However, we put them under arrest. Four or five hundred soldiers are currently in prison charged with various crimes including murder. The only problem is that the military court, like the other courts, is not yet up and running. However, investigations have been started and the files are ready. Neither the Army nor the government have been involved in any systematic killings although it is possible that certain people are not opposed to them. I am talking here about what has happened since we came to power. Of course there were deaths during the three months of fighting that followed the genocide. War is not a picnic. How many Iraqi citizens perished during the Gulf war? But I do not believe anyone would accuse the allies of having engaged in systematic killing.

[Colson] Is not such a large Army with such badly paid soldiers not difficult to control?

[Kagame] Their pay has nothing to do with it. Before we came to power these soldiers had not been paid for three years and there had never been a problem. As for the size of the Army, that was in proportion to the war: We had to cover the whole territory and we had to draft people in, even people whose histories we did not know. We even discovered afterwards that there were militiamen from the previous government in our Army, living under false identities. I would imagine that certain of them took advantage of their situation to engage in killings. The people here have to face up to many challenges, including simply surviving.

Some people might react irrationally, but that is one of the consequences of genocide. Soldiers have committed suicide out of desperation. This same desperation could drive a soldier to kill others before he kills himself.

It is true that several dozen soldiers have deserted. Some did so because their families are in Burundi and they wanted to rejoin them when the fighting ended. The others are members of this marginal group with a shady past. They deserted for opportunistic reasons, through a lack of discipline, or because they have a taste for adventure. Why Burundi? They are profiting from the confusion that reigns in that country. We warned the Burundi authorities that these people would cause problems for them if they are not arrested or simply attacked.

[Colson] Do you fear that the conflict in Masisi in Zaire, which has acquired an ethnic nature, could also threaten Rwanda? (Masisi is a region in northwestern Zaire where the native tribes of Hunde, Temba, and Nende have been fighting Rwandan Hutu refugees for the past year — LIBERATION editor's note)

[Kagame] It is worrying for security in the region. Those that support the conflict in Zaire are naive. It is also worrying because those people responsible for the genocide in Rwanda and are free in Zaire to come and go and import weapons are involved in the Masisi conflict. They are hunting Tutsis or members of the Rwandan Patriotic Front. You get the impression that this is a plan to create a base in Zaire where the interahamwe (Hutu) militia and their Zairian allies can operate without witnesses.

[Colson] You recently protested at the media overhyping of the refugee problem, stating that the camps also house those responsible for the genocide...

[Kagame] I differentiate between those who control the camps and who are often responsible for the genocide, and the others. These people should be split up. Why does the international community claim that it cannot intervene? Those people have been interviewed by journalists and have boasted about their massacres. This is pure hypocrisy. When it is in its interests the international community knows how to bring pressure to bear, as it did in Bosnia. But are the Bosnian criminals more important than ours? When they discover a six-man grave there it is a major crisis. Here there are graves with thousands of people. Is anyone bothered? This is discrimination, a way of saying that the lives of Rwandans are less important than the lives of the Europeans in the former Yugoslavia. If the international community wanted to make a gesture toward us then it would see to it that the International Tribunal in Arusha was able to hunt down the guilty parties and it would

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apply pressure to the states that give them refuge so that they can be extradited.

Rwanda: Ex-Premier Twagiramungu on Current Situation

*AB0904150396 Libreville Africa No. 1 in French
1215 GMT 6 Apr 96*

[Interview with Faustin Twagiramungu, former prime minister of Rwanda, by Mohammed Issoufou; Kinkie Mulumba, political director of Zairian weekly LE SOFT; Kayoum Tshombe, editor-in-chief of Zairian monthly AFRIQUE EVENTS; Ousmane Kaba, Libreville Radio No.1 correspondent in Brussels; and Christian Lussa Quainoo, managing editor of Radio Panique in Brussels; on the "One Hour To Convince" program hosted by Mohammed Issoufou; place and date not given — recorded]

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] [Issoufou] Thank you once again, Mr. Prime Minister, for accepting our invitation. Before going into serious business, I would like to inform you that we shall be linking up with some colleagues and Africa No. 1 correspondents in Africa who will be asking you questions on the issues we are going to tackle today.

So, Mr. Prime Minister, my very first question is quite a simple one: The Rwandan Government has decreed a week of national mourning to commemorate the second anniversary of the Rwandan genocide. Faustin Twagiramungu, what do you think of this Rwandan Government's initiative?

[Twagiramungu] I agree with this initiative. If I had had the opportunity to remain in Rwanda, I would have participated in the ceremonies marking this second anniversary. As you know, two years ago our country was hit by an unprecedented catastrophe, and I believe it is necessary to remind the Rwandan people of what happened.

[Issoufou] So, can you in a nutshell tell us what actually happened on that 4 April, 1994, because a lot of things have been said and written on this Rwandan genocide?

[Twagiramungu] First of all, we agree that there was a genocide and there was also the massacre of Rwandan opposition elements, particularly, Hutus; but the genocide was essentially directed against the Tutsis. What happened is that we believe that this tragedy was a planned one. If the Rwandan president had not died in the plane crash on 6 April 1994 with his Burundian colleague, there would, perhaps, not have been a rapid start of the massacre. However, after this accident, which killed the president, in the evening everybody was wondering what was going to happen. In the morning of

7 April, soldiers in particular began attacking citizens, and later on came the Interahamwe militiamen. I am a survivor myself, because I was on the list of those to be executed. In fact, I was on top of that list.

Therefore, we regret that such an incident should have gone on for a period of three months. The international community was present in Kigali. You know how they responded — in a passive way. And you also know the type of pain the Rwandan people went through. In a nutshell, we deplore the fact that during this period, there was no intervention on the part of the international community to stop this genocide.

[Kaba] And yet, Mr. Prime Minister, at that time the UN Observer Mission for Uganda and Rwanda [UNOMUR] was present and, therefore, at least there were elements of the United Nations on the field. Are you saying that this presence was only in name and that ultimately that presence did not serve any purpose?

[Twagiramungu] I think that at the time UNOMUR was appointed, nobody foresaw — at least not the United Nations — that there was going to be a genocide and a massacre of Hutu opposition elements in Rwanda, otherwise their mandate would have, perhaps, been something else. But the mandate given to the UNOMUR at the time was that they should not intervene in such occasion. This is regrettable. However, considering what was happening at the time, the UN could have decided otherwise and go on to Chapter 7 and ask the UNOMUR in Rwanda to intervene and stop the massacre.

[Issoufou] Our colleague Kinkie Mulumba, political director of the Zairian weekly, LE SOFT, has a question.

[Mulumba] Mr. Prime Minister, in fact when I look at you, I see you as a moderate Hutu leader who was presented to us at that time. At that time you were the moderate Hutu. Today you are rejected by the Hutu extremists, and you are also rejected by your one time allies, the Rwanda Patriotic Front [RPF]. How do you see yourself today?

[Twagiramungu] I believe there are extremists on all sides: There are extremists on the Hutu side just as there are on the Tutsi side. The expression "moderate" has become part of the political vocabulary today, but I would like to describe myself simply as a democrat. I have an ideal and this ideal is to see the Rwandan people reconciled and united, and as long as this objective has not been attained, extremists from both the Hutu and Tutsi sides will be making their comments. But in fact, this objective must be attained with other Rwandans. We also believe, however, that extremists will one day have the opportunity to realize that there is no other way than to unite all Rwandans. Therefore, I don't think

I have been rejected as an individual, rather there are some people who do not want to accept the ideals we have set for ourselves since 1990.

[Issoufou] Mr. Prime Minister, to add to the question of our colleague from SOFT, allow me to remind our listeners listening to us now that you resigned in a sensational way, you banged the door, as it were, of the government you formed yourself after 13 months. Some people saw this action as a way of denouncing extortions and repressions being perpetrated in the country. Others accuse you of keeping quiet all this time and then suddenly, after resigning, you start blasting the Rwandan Government. Why did you adopt this attitude? Why did you not denounce these extortions and repressions during the 13 months that you were in power? Why did you not blast the Rwandan president?

[Twagiramungu] First of all, the setting up of the government was not what I expected. I was appointed prime minister under the Arusha Peace Accord. After the genocide, of course, the RPF won the war and then tried to set up a government, called a government of national union, with a mask which naturally deceived the international community that the Arusha Accord [words indistinct] selective of Rwandans.

That was on 8 December, 1994. This statement was broadcast on radio in French and Kinyarwanda, my native language. What is strange is that this statement was made in the presence of international correspondents from Radio France Internationale [RFI]. If this statement was not broadcast anywhere else than Rwanda, then it is quite regrettable. However, this statement was sensational because the vice president of Rwanda, who is the strongman of Rwanda, made it a point to give a response to this statement on 22 December, 1994 by telling me that I am not, as prime minister, to make the type of reprimand made to his soldiers for the torture and killings committed. He also pointed out to me that I did not fight in the bush with them and, therefore, I did not have the right to make those types of observations. What does all that mean? There is a military regime which wanted to impose a military dictatorship, and that is all. I did not resign because I wanted to see if I could serve my country with a few more months. The decision, however, was made in August.

[Issoufou] Our colleague, Kayoun Tshombe, editor-in-chief of the Zairian monthly, AFRIQUE EVENTS, has a question.

[Tshombe] Mr. Prime Minister, you have just said that you spent 13 months as prime minister. In your previous statements, you said during this period you presided over cabinet meetings only two times. I would, therefore, like to know who was heading the Rwandan

Government during all this period. Secondly, I would like to know who is the person actually governing Rwanda today.

[Twagiramungu] Let me start by answering the last question. I think General Kagame is the man who is really governing the country today. And as he does not fail to point out, he took up arms; Pasteur Bizimungu did not take up arms at all. Therefore, the victory is a RPF victory and unfortunately not a victory of the Rwandan people, and this is quite regrettable. Concerning the issue of cabinet meetings: In fact, the Arusha Accords were not respected. The president and the vice president have all the powers and the prime minister, in my opinion, is only a spectator, who simply draws the agenda and keeps quiet, and asks for permission to speak during cabinet meetings. So, that was the situation in which I found myself. I exercised a lot of patience, but I could not continue any longer after those 13 months.

[Tshombe] Clearly, you were completely separated from the affairs of this country. So, the country was being ruled by only Paul Kagame and President Pastor Bizimungu?

[Twagiramungu] Of course yes, since there were many examples, for example, the secret report. The prime minister did not really want to know about everything that was happening. I can give you an example. When the prefect of Butare was assassinated in 1995, the president of the Republic called me and told me: Listen, the prefect has just been assassinated. I asked him: By whom? He told me that it was by the [words indistinct]. Meanwhile, according to explanations, the prefect was assassinated by his body guard. This surprised me, and it is still haunting me. The news was broadcast to the entire world that a prefect has been assassinated by an [word indistinct] group from Zaire. This was a presidential lie. Why? Because I did not have access to all the information.

[Issoufou] Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister. Here is a question by our colleague, Christian Lussa Quanoo, managing editor of Radio Panique, which is playing host to us here in Brussels.

[Quanoo] Mr. Prime Minister, you just said that on 22 December 1994 Paul Kagame disowned you. I have noted that it took you more than six months to resign. I wonder what could have happened after that, especially as you said at the time of your resignation that the RPF genocide began — according to you, there were two genocides — in April 1994 with the genocide of the Tutsis. Here is my question. It is a question of apportioning responsibilities. Are you responsible for the death of 200,000 persons in the RPF genocide as stated by the LIBERATION newspaper?

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[Twagiramungu] I cannot be responsible for that, especially as I have just informed you that the power of the prime minister did not practically exist within the Arusha Peace Agreement. So, those who were responsible must, undoubtedly, recognize this — that is to say, in the first place, the president of the Republic and also the strongman of Rwanda, General Kagame. Undeniably, I will always maintain the statement that I made on this topic. Regarding what I did during those six months, I would like to tell you that I asked the president and vice president if the Arusha Peace Agreements could be implemented so that I could conveniently exercise my duties. This was not done. This is what forced me to resign after those six months. Also, I would like to say one thing: The president and the vice president are aware of my activities. I have never stopped, together with the minister of interior, pointing out that Rwandans were being killed by the soldiers. So, I have always continued to maintain this position which I maintained during that period. There is nothing to do about that.

[Quainoo] Mr. Prime Minister, in short, to refer to a famous formula which was in the news in France at that time, do you accept, in one way or another, that you are responsible but not culpable?

[Twagiramungu] Listen, I am not responsible for what happened if you are talking about this 13-month period, and I am not in any way culpable. In any case, I am very clear in both cases.

[Quainoo] But understandably, you were the head of the Rwandan Government at that time.

[Twagiramungu] A government which was only nominal. In reality, this government did not in any way exist. It is just like today when you are told: Look, in this government of national union, we have Hutus. To me, what does power mean? Power is not a word, it is the making of decisions. Since there is no decision-making, to me, there is no power and we are only figure heads.

[Quainoo] And it took you 13 months to realize this manner in which the two strongmen of the country were governing the country?

[Twagiramungu] Well, I was full of rigor, and especially full of the determination to serve my people. I thought that during all that period, I could do everything possible to convince the RPF partners so that this attitude could change and also enable me to assume my responsibilities fully and conveniently.

[Quainoo] Mr. Prime Minister, on this issue, I am worried because at the time when you were prime minister, during one of your trips to Europe, you said: I am not hostage to the RPF. I assume my responsibilities fully. As prime minister, I do my work as I should. This

is what you said at that time when you were the prime minister.

[Twagiramungu] Really, I was not taken hostage. I think that I could go anywhere in the country, is it not so? We are now talking about decision-making, is it not so? I think as far as decision-making is concerned, I could not have made any decision like the one I made on 8 December 1994 by asking the RPF not to continue to massacre the people of Rwanda. But Gen. Kagame said that I had no right to make any remark to the soldiers. In other words, I could make decisions, but these decisions were contradicted by other officials. And be careful; apart from Kagame, I received rather pertinent and insulting remarks from some soldiers in view of the statements that I have always made.

[Quainoo] Threats?

[Twagiramungu] Of course. A particular case involved a major who came to attack me in my own office. So, I think that something must be done.

[Issoufou] A last question by our friend, Kinkie Mulumba, political director of the Zairian weekly LE SOFT, before calling on our correspondents.

[Mulumba] Mr. Prime Minister, one genocide replaces another. The first genocide was perpetrated against Tutsis while the second one is being directed at Hutus. Is there not a problem of social interaction? I mean, can Tutsis and Hutus, by nature, live together in the same country? Lately, there has been increasingly talk of Hutuland and Tutsiland. What do you think of this.

[Twagiramungu] First, let us talk about what genocide is. I think we understand genocide as a deliberate intention to eliminate a particular target. Concerning the Tutsis, there will be no discussion. Regarding Hutus, my party published a document on 6 November 1994 to indicate that there was another genocide. So this is nothing new to me. The fact remains that the target exists and there was an intention to wipe out, because the massacres and killings by the soldiers were quite selective. In other words, we believe that there is the need to consider the genocide of the Tutsis and consider the genocide of the Hutus. However, we do not intend to play down the genocide which took place from April to July 1994. Far from that.

When you talk of separating the Hutus and the Tutsis, I think you are supposing that reconciliation is no longer possible. For my part, I shall continue to defend reconciliation, which must be done by educating the Rwandan people. Otherwise put, I do not accept the proposal of dividing Rwanda into Hutuland and Tutsiland.

[Issoufou] Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister, for this explanation. We shall now link up with our correspondents around the continent. We shall begin with our colleague Jean Mater Ndi in Yaounde, Cameroon, who certainly has a few questions to put to Mr. Faustin Twagiramungu.

[Ndi] Mr. Prime Minister, two countries have demanded the extradition of Colonel Bagossora, who was arrested a few weeks ago in Yaounde. These countries are Rwanda, which accuses him of leading the genocide in Rwanda, and Belgium which accuses him of killing a number of Belgians. What has come out of the approaches made by the Rwandan government, given the fact that there is no extradition agreement between Rwanda and Cameroon? How will this issue be fixed? How do Rwanda and Belgium hope to handle this affair?

[Twagiramungu] First, there is no question of extradition, because there is no extradition arrangement between Belgium and Cameroon. Secondly, the Rwandan Government had not issued an arrest warrant for Bagossora before Belgium did so. Moreover, we think the international tribunal for Rwanda should have priority over the Rwandan Government. This is my view. Thirdly, the Rwandan Government would like the perpetrators to face the death penalty, whereas the international tribunal does not want capital punishment for offenders.

In conclusion, practically speaking, Col. Bagossora should not be extradited to Rwanda, at least for legal reasons, and if sentimentally that should be done, the issue must be examined later. That is my position.

[Issoufou] We are going to take Jean Mater Ndi's second and last question.

[Ndi] Mr. Prime Minister, I would like to know if the Rwandan and Burundian issues are linked. If so, have there been contacts between the two countries to definitively resolve these issues? Also, how do you think the Rwandan problem can be solved?

[Twagiramungu] Well, I think conferences have been held in the Great Lakes region, especially the conference held in Bujumbura in 1995, the conference held in Nairobi to examine the Rwandan and Burundian issues, other conferences which are regularly held in Ethiopia, and also Mr. Carter's initiative.

In other words, these countries which seem to be twin countries have similar problems, even if solutions to their problems may be different. I think contacts must be maintained within a more global framework so as to find a solution to problems in the Great Lakes region. [passage omitted]

[Issoufou] You set up a political party called the Forces of Resistance for Democracy, FRD. It was set up here in Brussels a few days ago. Can you tell us the reasons that motivated you to set up that party?

[Twagiramungu] There is the need to clarify this issue. Some people talk of a political party, others say it is a political organization. I prefer to call it a political organization. Why? Because it groups together the forces of resistance for democracy. Therefore, we believe that other political parties, especially those within the country, can join our initiative. Other Rwandans can also join our initiative. The objectives of the organization have been well defined. We are talking about reconciliation. The continuation of the democratization process started in the 1990's and could not be completed, unfortunately. It is also aimed at reconciling all Rwandans.

[Kaba] Mr. Prime Minister, where do you stand? You were first of all in the Republican Democratic Movement [MDR], which you later left. You returned home and occupied the post of prime minister. Are you still an MDR member? If yes, then why did you set up another party and for what purpose?

[Twagiramungu] I think you must properly understand the objectives of our organization. I have just pointed out that it is not a political party but a political platform, a political organization that groups other forces or other political parties. This platform is also extended to other Rwandans on an individual basis. They can join us. As far I am concerned, since 1992, I have continued to be MDR chairman and I remain the chairman, until the party's congress itself, in conformity with the party statutes, decides that Mr. Faustin Twagiramungu is no longer the chairman of this party. The statements you have been hearing, in particular the statement issued recently by the foreign minister and which was even denounced by the so-called political bureau ... [pauses] that minister cannot take the place of a congress, this is impossible.

[Kaba] Your successor said last week in Brussels that you, Mr. Twagiramungu, are no longer an MDR member and that he is.

[Twagiramungu] I do not think he is right to say so. Rwigema himself has not been named prime minister in conformity with the Arusha Peace Accords. So, he cannot claim to be an MDR member and say that I am not. On what basis can he claim to be a member and then exclude me from the party. I remain a member until I am proved wrong.

[Tshombe] Mr. Prime Minister, when you launched your platform, you stated your desire to establish a true democracy. You have the former genocide perpetrators,

who want to recapture power through military means on the one hand, and yourself, Mr. Twagiramungu, who has expressed your democratic faith on the other hand. How do you plan to establish this in Rwanda?

[Twagiramungu] The new democracy can have its basis only if the Rwandan people accept it. I think do not think that using weapons will help us achieve democracy. We firmly believe that the Rwandan people do not want another war. We believe that the path we are charting today is the best. We simply need to persuade and to convince Rwandans inside and outside and be able to impose an appropriate system on the present government, which is behaving — as I told you — like a military government that wants to impose dictatorship. I want to stress that as Rwandans, it is not possible for us today to impose our desire. If the international community claims to support the Rwandan Government, it should also be in a position to tell that government that it has to adopt a democratic posture. In other words, there should absolutely be a truly national army. There is no doubt about that. As long as there is no truly national army, there will also be conflicts. The only way to end these conflicts is for Rwandans to sit down together and discuss national problems.

[Kaba] That is eventually through negotiations?

[Twagiramungu] I think so.

[Quainoo] Mr. Prime Minister, you have just stated that you are still the MDR chairman. The MDR, your party, is part of the Rwandan Government coalition. I would like to know how you can blast Rwanda and its leaders from Brussels while you are supposed to be the chairman of a party that is a member of the government coalition?

[Twagiramungu] I know what I am talking about. Those parties only exist on paper. The FPR does not like the MDR and other parties having contact at the grassroots level. So, a party that has no contact with the grassroots, in my opinion, is a party that is gradually dying. The initiatives we are taking from Brussels are aimed at reviving these parties. In addition, I think with today's means of communication, we cannot say that we are cut off from other Rwandans inside the country. Therefore, to be president does not mean that you must necessarily be in Kigali. You can be president while being in another country.

[Issoufou] What you are clearly saying is that a "combatant" like you can try to reconcile hearts, to bring together different views from outside while being well aware of the fact that the situation inside, in the field, is also difficult and complicated?

[Twagiramungu] Of course! An initiative like this one, even if you are looking at an individual, cannot be taken into account from an individual point of view. I think that if an internal trend did not exist, we could not have been able to take this initiative. We know, however, that there are Rwandans who are disoriented and who want some change because of what is happening now. That is why this initiative, in our opinion, is from within not from outside.

[Issoufou] Thank you Mr. Prime Minister. We will now join our Dakar, Senegal correspondent, Abdoulaye Thiam, who has some questions for you, Mr. Prime Minister.

[Thiam] Good morning Mr. Prime Minister. What is your opinion on the national union government? Are the necessary conditions gathered to bring about a national reconciliation atmosphere in Rwanda?

[Twagiramungu] Good morning. I do not think that this government, called a national union government, could really reflect a union. Furthermore, this reconciliation is not reflected in the current actions and especially, in the utterances by the president or even the vice president. Each time we speak of reconciliation, a question is asked: With whom are we going to reconcile? In other words, we have on the one hand those who won the war, and on the other hand, those who did not fight, and who are included in this generalization scheme. We are different. We would like to see union prevail among Rwandans; we would like to see reconciliation. However, what we are trying to prevent is impunity. Justice should prevail.

[Thiam] What projects have been implemented in the country since efforts for the reconstruction began — having security in the country, the situation of the refugees, the establishment of a judiciary system and the administration?

[Twagiramungu] I think that there are some points — that is within the framework of the reconstruction program — such as, the houses that had been destroyed in the war are being repaired, especially the administrative buildings. As for the reconciliation and the administration issues, however, all is to be rebuilt. Why? First of all, there is no security ensured for all the Rwanda people. Second, there is no firm policy as for the return of refugees, and that goes with guarantees for security. The proprieties of these refugees — who are in neighboring countries — remain in the hands of former refugees who returned to Rwanda. In a word, what does this mean? It means that everything is to be rebuilt. It should be rebuilt on one basis of course. This basis is to unite all the Rwandans, to prevent any attempt to settle scores, or nurture hatred. We should rather initiate the sense

of nationalism. We reject ethnic and even regional considerations. The men who are conducting the affairs of the nation today should behave as statesmen and not as ethnic community leaders.

[Issoufou] Mr. Prime Minister, before Thiam asks his last question, I would like to ask you: Because your mission today is to bring reconciliation among Rwandans outside and inside the country, what is your stand on the action being carried out by the RDR?

[Twagiramungu] The RDR has its own objectives, of course, and we have our own precise objectives. I would like to say here that if the FPR were a group that were there to take care of the refugees, we, the forces of resistance for democracy, we are aiming at helping Rwandans who are inside the country, who are facing serious problems and these problems should be solved. We are also taking the case of the refugees into account. For us, we are to be realistic. I think for the RDR, all this is just (?sensationalism).

[Issoufou] Don't you have the feeling that the two missions are complementary and inseparable?

[Twagiramungu] Of course, one should know when strategies are similar or when two groups have the same objectives. If our objectives are similar, then we shall see. We will see how our objectives could jointly be achieved. I think, however, that the strategies implemented by the RDR are currently different from ours.

[Issoufou] Does it means that you do not recognize the RDR as a political party? We understand the RDR is a political group which aims at facilitating the return of Rwandan refugees living in various countries back to Rwanda?

[Twagiramungu] There is the recognition of the RDR as such and then the analysis of the strategies. For my part, I would like to analyze just the strategies.

[Issoufou] We are going to link up directly with Abdoulaye Thiam, our correspondent in Dakar, for his very last question to Prime Minister Twagiramungu.

[Thiam] Mr. Prime Minister, what is your viewpoint on the International Penal Tribunal. More specifically, do you agree with the principle of prosecuting the presumed perpetrators of the Rwandan genocide? If need be, is your party willing to cooperate with the international tribunal in this regard?

[Twagiramungu] Of course, we must cooperate at all costs with the international tribunal. However, concerning the prosecution of the presumed perpetrators of the genocide, I believe that — and I stated this right from the beginning — when the international tribunal was set

up, it was to try the planners, perpetrators, and even in some cases, executors. Yet there now seems to be some competition between the Rwandan Government and the international tribunal. The latter should be able to decide once and for all, say who is judging what, and who is judging whom. In my opinion, the international tribunal should absolutely be able to take charge of all the cases including those of the 70,000 people who have been imprisoned and who find themselves in inhuman conditions. As for supporting, we absolutely support the international tribunal, which it appears does not have the funds now, but this must be found by all means.

[Issoufou] Kinkie Mulumba.

[Mulumba] Mr. Prime Minister, we have heard a lot of talk about reconciliation and negotiation. My mind goes immediately to the Carter Center initiative. More specifically, I wonder what importance you accord to countries in the region — and I am thinking of a country such as Zaire. You were prime minister, which you no longer are, and the current Rwandan Government — even at the time when you were in office — continues to accuse Zaire of promoting arms trafficking. What do you make of all this? These are my two questions, Mr. Prime Minister.

[Twagiramungu] The Rwandan problem cannot be resolved within the limited framework of a small country such as Rwanda alone. This problem must be resolved within a well defined setting. I personally believe that it would be better to resolve it within the broader setting of the countries of the Great Lakes. We cannot do this while excluding Zaire. This country is extremely important for Rwanda, especially as it shares history with Rwanda — more so than the latter does with Uganda, for example. Therefore, I do not subscribe to the idea of excluding Zaire. As for saying that Zaire is accused of harboring the militia, executors, planners, and even providing arms, I think it is perhaps necessary to properly examine the issue. Nonetheless, efforts have been made in the last few weeks or days by Zaire, which has imprisoned some intimidators, I believe. As for the arms, I think inquiries will have to be made. I personally do not believe that Zaire has been supplying arms to the former Rwandan Army, I do not think so.

[Issoufou] Ousmane Kaba.

[Kaba] Mr. Prime Minister, in January 1995, the international community met in The Netherlands to discuss Rwanda, but so far the results from this meeting are a long time coming, at least, as far as the financial assistance to be given is concerned. I do not know what you think about this. Second, the second summit devoted to the countries of the Great Lakes ended a few days ago in Tunis. Are you satisfied with its conclusions?

[Twagiramungu] Let us start first with these meetings, which you said were held in The Netherlands. I think there was rather a very important meeting, which was held on 18 January 1995 in Geneva. That was the roundtable meeting where donors made some very interesting decisions which, unfortunately, could not be implemented because the Rwandan Government was unable to meet the conditions laid down. As for Mr. Carter's initiative now, I find it worthwhile, because it offers solutions for the future. However, frankly speaking, we see that the Tunis meeting did not result in much; it is not video tapes that are going to convince people with pictures on a screen to return home. I think that the problem has shifted elsewhere. The problem is no longer within the camps; rather, it is inside Rwanda. Rwandans could go home, if all the conditions were to be met. The guarantees for returning home must be absolutely clarified. It is for the Rwandan Government to meet the conditions imposed, and not the refugees.

[Issoufou] Do you believe that these conditions have not been met?

[Twagiramungu] Of course, they have not been met. Let me ask you this: A refugee who has lost his property in Rwanda, and who knows very well that this property is being occupied by other refugees — the old ones — or even by soldiers, how do you want such a refugee to return home, and especially, when people have returned home and have disappeared into prison or have simply been executed?

[Issoufou] Mr. Prime Minister, on the one hand, you say that President Carter's initiative is a good one, but on the other, you say that all these reconciliation and negotiation attempts have not resulted in much. So what must be done, under the circumstances? The UNHCR continues to say that the conditions have been met, but that it is the leaders of the Rally for Democracy and the Return of Refugees to Rwanda who are not encouraging the refugees to return home, the Kigali government also says that the conditions have been met, but you are telling us the opposite. So who should we believe in this matter? And, what must be done today to clarify the situation?

[Twagiramungu] Who should be believed? I think that you should believe me, because with my 13 months of experience, I know what I am talking about. The others who have been attending these meetings have not had the same experience. First, where are the guarantees on properties? Second, public administration is more important. If the people in power today think that they can share all that is inside Rwanda among themselves alone by excluding Rwandans within the country and outside; that is not possible. Let us take the example of

the Army. If the present Army is not really a national one, then people are afraid. Why is this so? They simply refer to the situation presently prevailing in Burundi.

Therefore, all these conditions have not been met. They will only be met if the Rwandan Government agrees to: 1. the formation of a truly national army; 2. complies with the Arusha peace accords as far as the old refugees are concerned; and, 3. guarantees the free entry of all the refugees and the recovery of all their property, and of course, integrates them into public administration. Today, all the posts and vacancies have been given to the people who came from outside, who do not know Rwanda, and who do not know anything about the country's public administration. So, how do you expect these people to return home? [passage omitted]

[Tshombe] Mr. Prime Minister, you just said — and other parties too — that on several occasions, that to put an end to impunity was a crucial initial step to move the reconciliation process forward. You also said at the beginning of the program that one of the factors that triggered off the genocide crisis was the fact that President Habyarimana's plane was gunned down. Recently, there have been several hypotheses circulating about the alleged authors — the people who gunned down this plane. In your view, will you, for instance, be prepared to take the necessary steps to ensure that the entire truth is established about the authors of this plot?

[Twagiramungu] Of course, yes. I think we are very clear about this in our document, aren't we. If one really wants to establish the truth and that justice is done, it is absolutely necessary to reveal the identity of the authors of this plot. The international community cannot ever continue to care less when there has been a plot that killed two heads of state, can you imagine that? Well, I'm sorry about that but if this had involved the leaders of countries like, say, Germany, France, and others, the investigations would duly have been conducted but since the issue concerns two small countries, the whole issue is being silenced. Have these investigations been (?properly) conducted not to underpin the root of the evil?

[Issoufou] Thank you, Mr. Prime Minister, our program is drawing to an end. We are going to take on the very last question by our colleague and correspondent in Brussels, Ousmane Kaba.

[Kaba] Mr. Prime Minister, a lot has been said about the international community. It has of late been noticed in Africa that very often we sit back and rely on external assistance for solutions to all our conflicts. Why? And yet African countries [words indistinct] the impression that they are experiencing the unbearable. Is the attitude

of the Great Lakes countries, which directly surround you, more credible today, and what are the other African countries doing to help Rwanda out of the current impasse? We should not always go cap in hand and expect assistance from others. You have just spoken about Bosnia. Why can't Africans also work out other assistance plans either to prevent or find immediate solutions to conflicts like we have witnessed in your country?

[Twagiramungu] Well, I can't speak for all Africans or African leaders. I think they have this will which is demonstrated especially by the OAU secretary general, Dr. Salim Salim. However, I observe that despite this great will, I think Africans do not have the means to act. It is obvious that Tanzania, which has been a facilitator, would certainly want a definitive solution to the Rwandan situation, but Tanzania cannot do anything single-handed.

[Issoufou] We are going to take on two more questions from Kinkie Mulumba, closely followed by that of Christian Lussa Quainoo. Over to you, Kinkie.

[Mulumba] Mr. Prime Minister, you spoke about Bosnia. I am asking you a question which is on the minds of all African intellectuals: Do you think your country — as you said, your tiny country — has been or is the testing ground of any plan — I don't know which, though? It has been observed that after the departure of the French, the Americans came in and the feeling today is that English is more spoken in Rwanda than French. I tell myself that there is probably something cooking, something in the pipeline. Do you think Rwanda is serving the experimentation ground for an international plan?

[Quainoo] Mr. Prime Minister, my question is as follows: Is your political platform — the FRD has its roots in Rwanda — on the ground. How can you implement your organization's resolutions in Rwanda itself since you cannot go there yourself? [names

indistinct], member of this party was, moreover, the victim of an attempted plot which he blames on the (?Rwandan Patriotic Front)?

[Twagiramungu] Thank you. I will first answer the first question. In fact, I have this impression that Rwanda has indeed become a testing ground for certain world powers, isn't it? I don't see why, after this tragedy, no solution can be found if certain countries have no vested interest here. Rwanda is effectively going deeper and deeper down the drain. This is highly regrettable since we formed part of the well-known francophone community, but I don't think in three years' time this community will (?exist). It is absolutely necessary that things change for the better. As for the question on

[Quainoo, interrupting] Your political organization.

[Twagiramungu] The FRD platform, I have already answered it. I clearly stated that the fact that one is in Brussels, Washington, New York, Paris, cannot prevent a party leader from communicating with the grassroots back home, you see. So, we cannot take the risk of forming such a party if we don't have the support of our compatriots back home. [passage omitted]

Zaire

Zaire: Prime Minister Wants Rwandan Refugee Issue Settled Before Elections

*AB0804165796 London BBC World Service
in English 1505 GMT 8 Apr 96*

[From the "African News"]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Zairian prime minister, Kamanda wa Kamanda, has said that he wants the Rwandan refugee issue settled before July 1997, the deadline for Zairian elections. In an interview with the REUTERS NEWS AGENCY, Mr. Kamanda said all confusion should be avoided during the elections.

Ethiopia

Ethiopia: Government Urges UN To Enforce Resolution Against Sudan

EA0804202096 Addis Ababa Radio Ethiopia National Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 8 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Ethiopia has stated that the UN Security Council should carry out its responsibilities regarding the Khartoum government, which has refused to hand over to Ethiopia the terrorists who took part in the attempted assassination of the Egyptian President Mubarak.

In a statement, issued today, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said Ethiopia's unilateral efforts with Sudan to hand over the terrorists had failed. Also, the UN Security Council's resolution demanding that Sudan hand the terrorists over to Ethiopia within 60 days had not been fulfilled and enacting the resolution was not for Ethiopia alone, but for the entire world. Tewodros Neway has the details as despatched by the Ethiopian news agency:

[Begin Tewodros recording] According to the Foreign Ministry, what Ethiopia expects from the Security Council is a very stern measure that would force the authorities in Sudan to be governed by the resolutions of the international community. The statement went on to say that it is only through the Security Council's clear, strong, and necessary message that it can be determined whether the Sudanese authorities have respected the council's resolutions or not. It noted that Ethiopia hopes the steps to be taken by the council will affect the Sudanese Government authorities, who are carrying out state terrorism, and not the people. The Foreign Ministry statement noted that the steps to be taken against Sudan in this respect should be in keeping with the struggle to combat terrorism, which has become a menace to world peace. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Somalia

Somalia: Aidid Forces Fire at EU Delegation's Aircraft

BR1004065696 Groot-Bijgaarden DE STANDAARD in Dutch 6-7-8 Apr 96 p 10

[Article by Anne De Graaf: "Somalis Fire at Belgian C-130"]

[FBIS Translated Text] Militias of the self-appointed Somali President General Mohammed Farah Aidid opened fire on Friday morning [5 April] on the convoy in which Italian EU Development Commissioner Emma Bonino was traveling. A Belgian C-130 Hercules aircraft which flew the delegation to Kismayo, and where

it was fired on by Aidid rebels, rescued the party from the hail of bullets.

The shooting occurred shortly after the convoy left Kismayo airport on Friday morning. Until March last year the airport was in the hands of Belgian Blue Helmets. Haji Aden, an accomplice of General Aidid, jumped unnoticed onto one of the jeeps carrying the heavily armed European delegation. On the way he encountered Aidid's southern rival, General Morgan.

He was making it a point of honor to receive in person from the European Community Humanitarian office (ECHO) the aid of \$55 million, the EC being Somalia's one and only donor this year. Morgan, who rules in Kismayo, persuaded Haji Aden to get out. There followed 10 minutes of gunfire, from which Commissioner Emma Bonino escaped by jeep.

In the meantime things were heating up at the airport. Aidid's militias were firing from the four corners of the airfield at the Belgian C-130, used for the past 14 days on humanitarian missions in Somalia. Following requests by the police, the captain started up the engines twice in order to leave without the delegation. It was only when, on Morgan's orders, the mobile double-barrelled 20 mm guns had succeeded in quieting the rebels, that the Belgian crew, the British captain, and the EU delegation were able to leave.

Unrest has returned to Kismayo for the first time in three months. The day before yesterday fighting between a warlord and his former colleague Osman Ato in the south of the Somali capital Mogadishu left 12 dead. Kismayo's warlord Morgan suggested that Aidid felt offended because the C-130 did not want to land at his airport in south Mogadishu. This airport is closed for security reasons and because Aidid does not want the Hercules to fly over the mosques.

Somalia: Ato Radio—Aidid Forces Bombing Civilians

EA0904201196 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali 1630 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] A spokesman for the operation to defend the forces of the USC-SNA [United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance] disclosed that the anti-peace Aidid group has started bombing civilian residential areas in Mogadishu with mortars. He elaborated that the anti-peace Aidid group is bombing the area known as Bosna, the market of Mekka and Medina and some parts of Hodan, Hawlwadaag and Wardigley Districts, all in Banaadir region. The intention of the anti-peace group is to mislead the people [words indistinct] that they want to turn the people to the fire they

are fanning. He continued that the USC-SNA can never bomb civilians. It is a defender not an attacker and has the right to defend itself against any aggressors who oppose the general interests of Somali people.

In conclusion, he called on Somali people in general and the brotherly people of Mogadishu in particular to counter the evil acts.

Somalia: USC-SNA Official Reports on Aidid Assaults on Mogadishu Residents

EA0904202696 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali 1630 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] People claiming to be officials and militia from the self-styled group in Mogadishu have started looting, raping, and killing Somali civilians they think are supporters of the USC-SNA [United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance]. This was said by Mr. Mohamed Osman Farah Oon, the deputy secretary of the USC-SNA for internal affairs security section, while briefing a radio correspondent in his office.

The deputy continued by describing these acts as disgusting and warned that they could lead to new evil consequences undermining the peaceful coexistence of brotherly people.

He also said that those who sabotage peace and the rights of Somali citizens will not be tolerated. He warned the self-styled group to refrain from such acts. In conclusion, he asked Somali people to counter these inhuman acts. On the other hand, he praised peace-loving Somalis for the way they worked to live peacefully. He prayed for those whose minds had been warped so that they realized the value of peace.

Somalia: Ato Radio Blames Aidid for Current Insecurity

EA0904210996 (Clandestine) Radio Mogadishu Voice of Somali Pacification in Somali 1630 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Mr. Osman Mohamoud Shirwa' Falko, who is a member of the permanent committee of the USC-SNA [United Somali Congress-Somali National Alliance] has issued a press statement on the current security situation in the country. Mr. Falko said in the statement that the self-styled group, which lately had been busy inciting enmity in the Shabeellaha Hoose and Banaadir regions, was now campaigning to spread the same disorder in other regions of the country — for example Mudug region — by asking their followers to start fighting there.

Mr. Osman Ali [as heard] Shirwa' Falko lastly called on the brotherly people living in Mudug region to live

together in peace and fraternity and to remain vigilant against the troublemakers who made it their business to shed the blood of Somali people.

Somalia: Aidid's Radio Reportedly Back on Air

AB1004094796 Paris AFP in English 0852 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mogadishu, April 10 (AFP) — A radio station controlled by Somali warlord Mohamed Farah Aidid has resumed broadcasts, lending credence to speculation that he intends to launch a major offensive against militiamen loyal to his rival Osman Hassan Ali "Ato".

The radio, which has been off the air for the past month, resumed broadcasts on Tuesday [9 April] with appeals to the people to support Aidid's self-declared "government" in south Mogadishu. It did not broadcast its usual daily news programme.

Aidid returned to Mogadishu from the central town of Baidoa last week. He has been living in Baidoa since he led a group of his militiamen to capture the town from the Rahanwein clan in September.

His return was preceded by two days of heavy fighting between his militiamen and those loyal to Osman Ato, a one-time Aidid's financier. The violence left 25 people dead and 250 others wounded.

Aidid is currently said to be reorganizing his fighters for a decisive offensive against Ato's militiamen in south Mogadishu. The radio will come in handy for military propaganda.

Ato, for his part, has been advising Mogadishu residents over his radio to beware of "Aidid's betrayals" and keep their children from the battlefield.

Uganda

Uganda: Museveni—Obote Can Return Once Cleared of Atrocity Charges

EA0604132496 Kampala THE NEW VISION in English 5 Apr 96 p 36

[Article by Michael Sentongo: "Courts To Clear Obote's Return First — Museveni"]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] President Yoweri Museveni yesterday said former leader Dr. Milton Obote can only come back if he is cleared by courts for atrocities committed during his rule.

Addressing a big gathering from Naddangira parish, Kakiri in Busiro south constituency in Mpigi district,

Museveni said that it was wrong for Dr. Paul Ssemogerere to promise people that Obote can come back and settle without facing any charges. "Obote can come back and settle, as my friend Dr. Paul Ssemogerere has promised the people of Lang'o. But he has to first face charges of the atrocities committed during his stewardship of this country. If the courts clear him, then he can settle in Lang'o," Museveni said. [passage omitted]

Uganda: Opposition Denies Intention To Invite Obote To Return

*EA0604132696 Kampala THE NEW VISION
in English 5 Apr 96 p 1*

[Article by Richard Mutumba: "Ssemogerere Team Denies Obote Invite"]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Dr. Paul Ssemogerere's national campaign team has denied press reports that he promised to return [former President] Milton Obote back if elected president.

In an open letter to the chairman of the interim electoral commission, Stephen Akabwai, the chairperson of the team, Mary Mutagamba, said at no place and time in all his speeches did Ssemogerere ever mention the name of Apollo Milton Obote.

Disclosing the contents of the letter in a press conference at the IPC [Inter-Party Cooperation] office in Lubaga yesterday a member of Ssemogerere's publicity committee, Anthony Ssekwayama, said nowhere directly or indirectly did Ssemogerere ever promise the people of Lang'o that returning Obote would form part of his agenda.

"The New Vision" of Wednesday, 3rd April, under the heading "Ssemogerere to bring Obote back", said that the candidate assured the Lang'i that former President Milton Obote will return safely home if he (Ssemogerere) is elected in the forthcoming elections. [passage omitted]

Uganda: Mayanja Denies Museveni Sponsoring Him

*AB0604130396 Kampala Radio Uganda Network
in English 1400 GMT 4 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Presidential candidate Muhammad Mayanja Kibirige, now on a campaign tour of Busoga region, has dismissed as untrue reports that he is being sponsored by the incumbent president, Yoweri Museveni, for whom he will later stand down and join with all his supporters.

Addressing a rally at [word indistinct] primary school in Jinja town yesterday, Mr. Mayanja, perched on top

of a minibus, said he is contesting for the presidency on his own right. He told the excited large crowd that Mr. Museveni should step down for him because at 36, he is the most able person to lead this country since both Museveni and Ssemogerere are old people. He said when they elect him in May, [words indistinct] prep up his government is fighting corruption and ending all wars in the country. [passage omitted]

Uganda: Museveni Reiterates Refusal To Talk to Rebel Leader Kony

*EA0904161596 Kampala Radio Uganda Network
in English 1000 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] President Yoweri Museveni has held a meeting with the traditional chief and elders from the Acholi region [northern Uganda], who called on him at his home in (Rwachtura) near (Bushozi), Mbarara District [southwestern Uganda]. The elders were led by (Ruot Achana Justin). The president and the elders discussed ways and means of ending the insecurity in the Acholi region so as to prepare it for development.

On the request of the elders to hold talks with the Joseph Kony's rebels, President Museveni said that while the government on its part remains committed to ending insecurity in the north by pursuing the rebels, the elders are allowed and free to take their own options of talking with Kony if that option can help to bring peace in the region. He also assured them that the government is ready to facilitate their endeavors in this respect.

He emphasized, however, that the government cannot take the option of talking to the bandits who have continued to kill and maim innocent civilians as well as destroying valuable property without remorse. He noted that such an option from the government would set a bad precedent for other people who may cause trouble to the country in future expecting to be talked to. Mr. Museveni clarified that it is important to aim at establishing durable peace in the country and such people like Kony should better adhere to established constitutional means instead of making trouble and expecting to be awarded [as heard] for killing people and causing suffering to the population.

The president also reminded the Acholi elders that the government in the past had tried to hold peace talks with the rebels on the advice of the elders in the region. He explained that during these talks the rebels were not sincere because while talks were going on, the rebels were at the same time acquiring arms from the Sudan to kill and maim innocent civilians. [passage omitted]

South Africa: ANC Supports Call For Deploying Troops to Western Cape

*MB0804173996 Johannesburg SAPA in English
1713 GMT 8 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] JOHANNESBURG April 8 SAPA — The African National Congress on Monday [8 April] supported a call to deploy troops to the underpoliced, gangster-ridden Western Cape.

Commenting on an Urban Monitoring and Awareness Committee study that showed poor communities in the province had less than one police officer per 1,000 residents, the ANC said drastic measures had to be taken to deal with the high crime. "Not surprisingly the call for the active deployment of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) in gangster-plagued communities is a popular one," the ANC said. "The ANC supports this call as an immediate and short-term measure," it said adding that it also supported the notion of rent-a-cops for Sea Point and Cape Town's city centre.

The study also showed that less than 10 percent of police leadership came from poor communities in the Western Cape. "It is in these communities that gangsterism is rife and that statistics reveal the highest rate of assault, murder, attempted murder, armed robbery and rape."

Although it commended anti-crime efforts and salary hikes for officers, the ANC said there needed to be a better distribution of police in poor communities.

South African Press Review for 9 Apr

MB0904124296

[FBIS Report]

THE STAR

Civil Service Retrenchments — If the government is going to deliver on election and Reconstruction and Development Program, promises it "needs to cut thousands of jobs to make the service lean enough and efficient enough to carry out its policies," notes a page-14 editorial in Johannesburg THE STAR in English on 9 April. But retrenchments and redeployments among the 1.8 million people in the civil service "are not possible due to job security deals made with the former Government. Thus apartheid rule continues to cast a shadow over the future." Therefore, the voluntary severance packages being offered to civil servants the state deems redundant "is one mechanism to shed excess workers." Although it is "a costly plan" it is "necessary" if "the country is to benefit in the long run."

SOWETAN

Police Salaries Increase — The Ministry of Safety and Security's proposal to adjust the salaries of policemen and women in the lowest ranks "will go a long way to addressing the low morale and corruption in the South African Police Service," notes a page-10 editorial in Johannesburg SOWETAN in English on 9 April. The mooted pay adjustments will give police officers "a new lease of life" and "will be seen as a vote of confidence in their fight against crimes like murder, car hijackings and child abuse."

BUSINESS DAY

KwaZulu/Natal Preelection Violence 'Free-For-All' — With less than two months before the local government elections in KwaZulu/Natal, "there are already ominous signs that the campaign could degenerate into a violent free-for-all," according to Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English on 9 April in a page-6 editorial. Two candidates, one ANC and one Inkatha Freedom Party, IFP, "have already been assassinated. There are reports that, in some townships, residents are beginning to arm themselves in preparation for the poll. Diplomats speak of an influx of arms from Mozambique." The planned injection of 5,000 policemen and troops from outside KwaZulu/Natal "may go some way to neutralising the men of violence. But these need to be deployed at once, before the campaign is in full swing." Ultimately it is the political parties "which must take the lead." IFP leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi is urged to drop his conditions for a multiparty peace rally, "most of which have nothing to do with peace or the elections." The rally is the "logical place for party leaders to pledge themselves to a non-violent poll and to urge tolerance on their followers." Finally, "the parties can lower the political temperature in the province by steering clear of the national issues which divide them and cause so much bitterness. Inkatha, for example, has no business dragging its constitutional battle into the campaign. Both parties have a responsibility to restore to the elections their proper focus — local affairs."

THE CITIZEN

Government's 'Waste' of Money on Commissions — "This government knows how to waste money," according to the page-6 editorial in Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English on 3 April. The Truth and Reconciliation Commission is going to cost the taxpayer over 150 million rands, R, and "by the elaborate organisation it is setting up, it will exceed its budget by a vast amount." Now there is also the Human Rights Commission "which will cost the taxpayer R1.6 million in salaries for the 11 members and an overall R6.436 mil-

lion for the current year, rising to R12.745 million in 1997/98." "If you take into consideration all the other commissions, the special advisers to ministers at salaries of up to R30,000 a month, the constitutional advisers

earning fancy salaries, and the rest, you can imagine how jolly nice it is to be favoured with such government appointments. All this at the expense of the taxpayer."

Angola

Angola: Official—Rumors of President's Poor Health 'Unfounded'

MB1004080396 London BBC World Service in Portuguese 2030 GMT 9 Apr 96

[From the "Londres Ultima Hora" program]

[FBIS Translated Text] Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has gone to southern France. There is speculation that his health has deteriorated, but others say it is just for a period of rest. In an interview with the BBC this afternoon, President's Office Spokesman Aldemiro da Conceicao said rumors concerning health problems were completely unfounded.

[Begin recording] [Da Conceicao] President Jose Eduardo dos Santos has gone to France for medical treatment and rest.

[Unidentified correspondent] There are those who feel there are concerns about the president's health. Is this true?

[Da Conceicao] There is no truth to that. He is not in any serious condition. He has just gone in for a medical check-up and to enjoy a period of rest.

[Correspondent] Is this medical check-up concerned with stomatology alone, or is it a general thing?

[Da Conceicao] It is a general thing. It does not have to do with stomatology alone.

[Correspondent] So you would say rumors about the president's health are unfounded?

[Da Conceicao] They are completely unfounded. [end recording]

Angola: 619 UNITA Soldiers Quartered at Quibala Assembly Area

MB0904094496 Jamba Voz da Resistencia do Galo Negro in Portuguese 0600 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] The National Union for the Total Independence of Angola [UNITA] troop confinement continues. A total of 619 UNITA soldiers have already been confined to Quibala assembly area in Cuanza Sul Province. [passage omitted]

Mozambique

Mozambique: Dhlakama—Chissano's Belated Consultations 'Opportunistic'

MB1004115596 Maputo IMPARCIAL in Portuguese 3 Apr 96 p 2

[FBIS Translated Excerpt] Mozambique National Resistance [Renamo] leader Afonso Dhlakama has described as "opportunistic" a "late effort" by President Joaquim

Chissano to listen to other political and social voices with regard to the country's problems "16 months into a chaotic governance during which the government did everything in its power to subdue other opinions and contributions."

Speaking to IMPARCIAL from the city of Beira — he is scheduled to return to Maputo on 4 April — the Renamo leader noted that the president of the republic has called unto himself or his party the exclusive right to decision-making concerning the resolution of problems affecting Mozambican society, but has not succeeded.

"President Chissano is now forced to move for wider nationwide perceptions and consensus, but his effort is just fake. He only wants to improve his tarnished image, after his government of 'competencies' [competencias] — which he says he always supported — showed it was both incompetent and impotent to deal with the country's massive problems," Dhlakama noted.

From Dhlakama's point of view, the government started implementing its strategy to keep the opposition — particularly Renamo — and public opinion on the sidelines "the moment Chissano completely rejected the notion of a government of national unity." [passage omitted]

Nevertheless, the Renamo leader noted that "it is a good initiative to listen to other opinions," adding however that "the most important thing is not merely to listen but to actually implement what the other parties and active social sectors say. After all, they reflect the people's interests." [passage omitted]

Namibia

Namibia: Government Announces Cabinet Reshuffle

MB0904202996 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1519 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] WINDHOEK April 9 SAPA — The Namibian prime minister's office on Tuesday [9 April] announced several senior government appointments.

Agriculture, water and rural development permanent secretary Isaac Kaulinge has been appointed secretary to the Cabinet [word indistinct] Cabinet secretary Eddie Amkongo and foreign affairs permanent secretary Andreas Guibeb have been assigned diplomatic posts, to be announced once arrangements are completed.

Ambassador to the United States Tlaimeni Kalomo will take over as foreign affairs permanent secretary. Agriculture, water and rural development deputy permanent

secretary Vaino Shivute becomes the ministry's permanent secretary.

Usutuajje Maamberua has been appointed deputy permanent secretary in the finance ministry with immediate effect.

Swaziland

Swaziland: Over 500 People Reportedly Seeking Political Asylum

MB0904115796 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 9 Apr 96 pp 1, 32

[Report by Albert Masango]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Mbabane — There are presently 500 political asylum seekers in Swaziland who are waiting to be interviewed by the Political Committee (PC). This is contained in an annual report of the Ministry of Home Affairs tabled in parliament on Thursday [4 April].

The report indicates that after the voluntary repatriation of Mozambican refugees completed in 1994 [words indistinct] asylum seekers from African countries further north of Swaziland continued to arrive in large numbers at an average rate of five to 15 per day during 1995.

It is reported that they entered Swaziland through Lomahasha, Oshoek, Lavumisa border gates while some are said to have entered through the boundary fence.

It is further reported that due to the high influx of asylum seekers the Political Asylum Committee decided to meet twice per week at which six people were interviewed per sitting. It also reported that the frequency of the committee's meetings was disrupted in May last year due to the transfer of the chairpersons from the ministries concerned.

It is reported that 383 applications were granted refugee status in Swaziland and 108 application for renewal of asylum [words indistinct] origin. It also indicates that 28 refugees disappeared on their own and their whereabouts are not known. It is assumed that they crossed into South Africa, and 18 refugees were resettled in other countries.

Swaziland: Foreign Minister Denounces Call For Sanctions

MB0804194596 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 8 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Authorities in Swaziland have reacted angrily today to a call for international sanctions to be imposed on the country. The call was made by

the Brussels-based International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU). The ICFTU claims that the rights of Swazi workers are being abused. Since the start of this year, the Swaziland Trade Union Federation, the SFTU, has spread demands for democratic reforms in the kingdom, and the authorities have been criticized for their handling of strikes and protests, for the continuing ban on political parties, and over the new industrial relations law which was passed in February. In Mbabane tonight, our reporter Tom Holloway asked the foreign minister, Senator Arthur Khoza, what he made of the call for sanctions.

[Begin recording] [Khoza] That, we treat with the contempt it deserves because whoever has made the statement, whoever has issued the call, is not qualified in any case. We are a sovereign, independent state. We have our laws. We have a legislature which is the supreme law-making body in the kingdom. Anybody who has had a problem was free to lobby parliamentarians. We do not think that there are people who are better qualified than us to tell us what to do. They speak about harassment of trade unionists. I think the true position is that some trade unionists are harassing government.

[Holloway] Has the ICFTU been in touch with the Swaziland Government officially over this matter?

[Khoza] I am not aware of any approach by the ICFTU on this or any other issue, which actually makes anyone feel suspicious about the motives of those who claim to represent that federation or confederation.

[Holloway] What do you think these motives might be?

[Khoza] There is no doubt in my mind that this is part of a political agenda. The motive is to install a government which does come from the genuine wishes of the Swazi people, and I do not think that this is the business of trade unionists.

[Holloway] Why do you think the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions is so interested in the political situation in Swaziland when it has got the whole global scene to look at, where there are far worse human rights abuses?

[Khoza] Well, quite frankly I don't know. But I think that they may well be or some of them may well be confused. We have said many times before: Anyone who wants to know the truth should come to us, meet government representatives, meet the other people, and then get the objective picture. But what they are doing makes one feel they have an agenda of operating in the dark, and one must be very suspicious of anybody who prefers darkness.

[Holloway] What does the Swaziland Government intend to do about what it sees as interference by the ICFTU in the internal affairs of Swaziland?

[Khoza] Government's position has been made very clear, namely that if the ICFTU is interested in knowing the truth or knowing what is happening, they are free any day to make an appointment, come see the relevant authorities, discuss the issues, get the information they need, and then make all conclusions. [end recording]

Zambia

Zambia: Police Distance Themselves From Defense Minister's Remarks

MB1004114296 Lusaka THE POST in English 10 Apr 96

[Report by Mervin Syafunko; received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] Police have disassociated themselves from the statements made by Defence Minister Ben Mwila in Luanshya on Monday [8 April] that former President Kenneth Kaunda was the originator of the "Black Mamba" threats.

Police spokesman Francis Musonda in an interview yesterday said the police were still going ahead with their professional investigations. "As far as we are concerned investigations are still going on like any other case of threatening violence and when we know the culprit we shall not hesitate to inform the public," Musonda said. "We do not listen to hearsay."

He however declined to say whether the minister's statement would have any effect on police investigations. Chief government spokesman Amusaa Mwanamwambwa also declined to state whether Mwila had made the accusations on behalf of the government or in his personal capacity. [passage omitted]

Zambia: Opposition Urges Government To Deal 'Swiftly' With Kaunda

MB1004112696 (Internet) ZAMBIA TODAY in English 9 Apr 94

[Item originally published by the Zambian News Agency, ZANA, on 7 April 1996]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Real Democratic Party [RDP] has urged government to take seriously threats by former President Kenneth Kaunda that he intends to break the law if he is barred from contesting this year's presidential elections.

The party said Dr Kaunda needs to be dealt with swiftly and decisively before he plunges the entire country into senseless anarchy and chaos.

Party President David Limata made the appeal when he addressed a public meeting at Chibombo adding that government would be committing a costly blunder for the nation if it took the former president's threats lightly. Mr Limata also condemned what he termed as politics of emotions by leaders of some new opposition parties.

He said Zambia cannot achieve anything from politics of confrontation now advocated by some leaders who formed parties after allegedly failing to deliver the goods to the people under UNIP [United National Independence Party]. Mr Limata, who also criticised the MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] ruling party, suggested that people vote for his party as it has a much more clearer vision of the kind of development programmes needed for Zambia.

Zambia: 177 MMD, 31 UNIP Members Join Zambia Democratic Congress

MB0904094096 Lusaka THE POST in English 9 Apr 96

[Report by Mabeni Sikalyabwanda; received via Internet]

[FBIS Transcribed Excerpt] The entire Southern Province ruling MMD [Movement for Multiparty Democracy] election campaign team that introduced the party in the region in 1991 resigned and joined the Zambia Democratic Congress (ZDC) in Choma on Sunday [7 April].

At a mammoth rally attended by hundreds of supporters, ZDC national leaders, provincial and district officials at the council grounds, the "popular" Philip Maambo led the campaign team which decided to join the opposition party after what most said was victimisation and intimidation by MMD leaders at national level.

One hundred and seventy-seven MMD cadres, thirty-one UNIP [United National Independence] cadres, and seventeen National Party members also surrendered their membership cards and got new ZDC cards in full view of an excited President Dean Mung'omba, General Secretary Derrick Chitala, National Trustee Chuulu Kalima, and senior member David Mwitumwa.

In what was termed as the "final burial act" of the ruling party in the province and proof that ZDC was in political control of the area, vice-president for youth and students, Fain Mwikisa, introduced Maambo, former Southern Province MMD co-ordinator and organiser as well as party provincial election campaign manager, George Nyanga, Choma district MMD co-ordinator, Charles Syazweni, MMD district secretary Bernard Kalima and Boscal Nawa. Maambo, who helped the MMD win by-elections as campaign team manager in

Katombora, Pemba, Namwala and Chinkakata accused MMD national secretary, Health Minister Michael Sata, of vindictiveness against him especially after he chose to support Roan MP Vernon Mwaanga at the last MMD convention in Lusaka.

"I was dismissed because I chose to support Mwaanga's candidature as national secretary. I respect Mwaanga because he has some brain matter. Sata made a decision to mock me," Maambo claimed. "I have also made a decision to join ZDC."

Former lands minister, Chuulu Kalima, castigated President Chiluba and the MMD government for allegedly diverting to other areas funds meant to develop and tar the Namwala-Choma road. "I resigned as Namwala member of parliament after I saw that I was dealing with cheats, people who were more interested in improving their home areas and beef up their pockets financially and not to serve the masses," Kalima charged, warning: "And if the ZDC leadership is going to do the same when in power I will resign again." [passage omitted]

Ghana**Ghana: Rawlings Calls On Liberia To Suspend Action Against Johnson**

AB0904210596 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 2000 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] chairman, Flight Lieutenant J.J. Rawlings has again expressed, on behalf of the ECOWAS authority, his grave concern at the recent outbreak of fighting in Monrovia which has precipitated the crisis and also has seriously undermined the peace process in that country.

Considering the many lives lost in the last few days, the property damaged and looted, and the other losses sustained by Liberians, the peacekeepers, and other persons now residing in Monrovia, the chairman is appealing to the Council of State of Liberia to immediately reconsider and suspend its action against General Roosevelt Johnson and to seek other avenues to resolve its differences with Gen. Johnson and the ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] faction.

The ECOWAS chairman also strongly appealed to the Council of State to do everything possible to save the lives of many Liberians who have sought refuge from violence at the Barclay Training Center and those who are being held hostage by parties involved in the fighting at the center. President Rawlings emphasized that it must be clear to the authorities in Liberia that neither the ECOWAS authority nor the wider international community will be prepared to accept the high casualty rate that would result were the center to be militarily attacked.

Liberia**Liberia: Fighting Reportedly Escalates in Monrovia**

LD0904144996 Paris Radio France International in French 1230 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Translated Text] Fighting with heavy weaponry on one side, ambushed snipers bringing terror on the other: tension has reached a high in Monrovia. Francois Picard reports:

[Picard] The scene has been set for a major settling of scores. The fighters of Charles Taylor and Alhaji Kromah are surrounding the Barclay military camp where fighters of the three factions with a Krahn majority have entrenched themselves. The former strong man, Samuel Doe, belonged to that ethnic group.

According to AFP, some 600 civilians are being held hostage inside the camp, including about 40 Lebanese

and about 25 Nigerian soldiers belonging to the West African peacekeeping force, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group].

In the past, Charles Taylor accused ECOMOG of providing weapons to Krahn factions, and UN troops now find themselves on the same side as him since Taylor, vice president of the council of state, is now on the side of the law.

If militiamen of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia [NPFL] and the Mandigo faction, the United Liberation Movement for Democracy [ULIMO], decide to storm the camp on their own initiative, the ECOMOG fears the consequences for both the hostages and its troops on the ground, including in Buchanan, the second largest town in the country, where they are surrounded by Krahn fighters.

Liberia: 'No Sign of Letup' in Monrovia Fighting

AB0904190296 London BBC World Service in English 1505 GMT 9 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Announcer] There is still no sign of a letup in the faction fighting which broke out in the Liberian capital at the weekend. Four days after the clashes broke out, Monrovia is in chaos and the man at the center of it all, the deposed ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson faction] leader, Roosevelt Johnson, is apparently still at large, even though a warrant is out for his arrest on a murder charge. The leaders of two rival factions, the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] and ULIMO-K [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Koromah faction], who are also on Liberia's ruling Council of State, have been trying to enforce the arrest order, but Johnson's forces have been joined in their resistance by other Krahn militias. On the line to Monrovia, Josephine Hazely asked our reporter, T. Budu Kesse, what was happening in the city this afternoon:

[Begin recording] [Kesse] At the moment, as I am talking to you, there is fighting continuing in the direction of the city center where the military barracks of the AFL [Armed Forces of Liberia] is located. It is believed that Roosevelt Johnson and his forces are still holding out in the attempt to put up some resistance.

[Hazely] How intense is the fighting?

[Kesse] Well, from where I can see, I can hear heavy sounds of artillery and small arms fire in the direction of the city center, which suggests that the fighting is indeed serious.

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[Hazely] Do you know who is fighting whom?

[Kesse] Well, the information I have been able to gather says that it is Johnson against Koromah and Charles Taylor.

[Hazely] What do you know of the number of people who may have died in this fighting?

[Kesse] Well, it is not clear as to the exact figure of those who have been killed. People fleeing the fighting area say that they have seen scores of bodies littering the area, but last night I spoke with one man who said he came from Bushrod Island area, which is southwest of Monrovia in the vicinity of the ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] end and he said he saw the bodies — huge, you know, pile of bodies — lying all over the place.

[Hazely] What about the humanitarian situation in terms of provision? Do you have any idea if there is any humanitarian help for those people who are fleeing to member points and

[Kesse, interrupting] Well, so far, there hasn't been any serious move to get food to the people. Those who fled into the [word indistinct] compound area said they have not had food and water about two to three days now and the situation is pretty — getting difficult for them. Some have had to go and scratch the ground to see whether they can get water from there, and there is a serious humanitarian situation in the compound as I understand. People have not had place to sleep. People have not had anywhere to go and, you know, toilet or any waste. So it's like they are sleeping in the same place and they are doing everything there. [end recording]

[Announcer] So on top of the loss of lives in Liberia over the past four days, there is the added misery of those displaced by the fighting. The UN High Commission for Refugees has just started getting to grips with the major repatriation exercise, but now, the priority lies with thousands of civilians who are in urgent need of food and shelter. On the line to Monrovia, Josephine Hazely spoke to Ambassador Anthony Nyaki, the UN special representative in Liberia, and she asked him what they were doing about the situation:

[Begin recording] [Nyaki] The situation is desperate and the humanitarian community is aware. It has been a long weekend. I have been in contact with the WFP [World Food Program] and the humanitarian assistance coordination office to do what they can to make the necessary arrangements to deliver food to the population that has been displaced, but of course, the most important thing is to ensure the movement of the

people delivering the food as well as to ensure their security.

[Hazely] Are you playing any role at all in helping to stop this fighting?

[Nyaki] UN's role, as you know in this crisis has been to help the parties to implement the Abuja Agreement, but in the present circumstances, the agreement has suffered a major setback and what we can do at the moment is to cooperate in the effort such as now under way to obtain the release of the hostages who are being held at Barkley Training Center.

[Hazely] Yea, carry on.

[Nyaki] I've been keeping in touch with the Nigerian ambassador who's been steering the efforts and at the moment we are waiting to hear about the arrangements that we agreed could be made to enable us to assist in the contact between the two sides in ensuring that the hostages are released and this has enabled the NPFL and ULIMO to hold off from storming the barracks.

[Hazely] They are planning to storm the barracks, are they?

[Nyaki] They were planning, but the negotiations have now have a chance, perhaps, to obtain the release of the hostages and we think this is an important initiative, so we think everybody should cooperate in giving it a chance. [end recording]

Liberia: Update on Fighting, Evacuation; U.S. Official Comments

*AB0904194796 London BBC World Service
in English 1705 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[From the "Focus on Africa" program" hosted by Kwabena Mensah]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Announcer] Liberia's warring factions are still at each other's throats with heavy fighting reported again in the center of Monrovia between the forces of Charles Taylor and Alhaji Koromah on one side, and fighters loyal to Roosevelt Johnson, the deposed leader of ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia]. They have been joined by other militias from the Krahn ethnic group. Johnson himself is believed to be held up in the Barclay Training Center Army Barracks and the West African ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] force have now started beefing up their presence in the city. Our Monrovia correspondent, Jonathan Peleyle, telexed this report:

ECOMOG troops have pulled out of Camp Schieffelin, a major military barracks on the road to Buchanan.

Since yesterday evening, the ECOMOG troops have been arriving at their Bushrod Island headquarters under the escort of armed tanks. Their withdrawal from Schieffelin has made it easy for thousands of fighters from George Boley's Liberian Peace Council, LPC, to reach Monrovia by sea and land. Some of these LPC fighters have joined forces with Roosevelt Johnson loyalists in the city, who also have the support of the Armed Forces of Liberia. Charles Taylor and Alhaji Koromah militiamen have also been trooping into the city in their hundreds to help in the battle with Johnson.

The fighting in Monrovia has continued today with buildings being razed to the ground. A black cloud of smoke has hung over the city all day. Among the houses burned down is the home of State Council member Wilson Sankawolo, which is situated just 100 yards from the (round-tag) home of Roosevelt Johnson. The fighting has also caused something of a crisis at Monrovia's main hospital, the John Kennedy. Patients have been trapped there and there are reports that five patients have died. Charles Taylor visited the area yesterday and supplied fuel to restore power at the hospital but patients are in dire need of food.

That telex report came from Jonathan Peleyle in Monrovia. Now the United States Administration says it is keeping a close eye on the fighting in Liberia where just under 500 American citizens are believed to be living, and President Clinton's special representative to Liberia, Ambassador Dane Smith, has just got back to Washington after an extensive tour of the West African subregion. On the line, Abdurahim Fukara, asked him what, if anything, the administration was doing to help:

[Begin recording] [Smith] Since this crisis broke out over the weekend, we have been in consultation through our embassy with the various faction leaders and to encourage an immediate cease-fire. We strongly condemn the outbreak of fighting and [word indistinct] use of force by the armed factions had which previously committed themselves to a cease-fire and the peace accord. We are also in touch with other governments in the region and ECOWAS [European Community of West African States] to ask their help in bringing whatever influence they have to bear on the situation to restore peace. We are in touch with the UN and the OAU as well. So, we are active diplomatically in seeing what can be done in this very worrisome situation.

[Fukara] Ambassador, you say you've been very active diplomatically. What about actually on the ground? Have you been taking any steps on the ground to reverse the sequence of events in Liberia?

[Smith] Well, obviously, the immediate situation is one of the clash of the armed factions. So, we have been

doing our best to persuade them to move back to a peaceful approach to the situation. I can't say that our efforts to get them to do that have had much results as of yet. So, that's.... [pauses] you know, that's what we are trying to do on the ground. We don't have forces on the ground. Of course, we are limited to what we can do to basically persuasion and using what....[pauses] more influence we may have on the parties to get back to a more peaceful posture.

[Fukara] What about ECOMOG? Is there anything that you can....[pauses] any influence that you can use on ECOMOG to convince them to do something on the grounds?

[Smith] We have been, we continue to be in touch with ECOMOG at various levels both in Monrovia and outside. However, ECOMOG has not been successful, so far, in reimposing order in Monrovia and we believe that that is a matter that the ECOWAS states need to look at carefully. We have been providing support for ECOMOG in the form of trucks and helicopter assistance with its logistics. We have contractors out in Liberia who have been providing trucks services and helicopter services and this is an effort to part of our pledge that we made back in the (?fore) to make available \$10 million in assistance and logistics support for ECOMOG. Clearly, at the moment, this is not working very well and we have been talking with the ECOWAS states about further measures that could be taken to strengthen ECOMOG in the situation. I don't want to go into details on those conversations but I was (?right) to believe in my conversations in West Africa and in my conversations in Accra, and it was clear that President Rawlings is very concerned about the ECOMOG situation and anxious to set up a meeting of the ECOWAS states to do something about the situation. [end recording]

[Announcer] President Clinton's special representative for Liberia, Ambassador Dane Smith, on the line from Washington.

Meanwhile, the first foreigners to be evacuated from the fighting in Liberia have started arriving in neighboring Sierra Leone and other contingency plans are being prepared by military officials from the United States. Our Freetown correspondent, Victor Sylver, telexed this report:

A number of UN staff members and businessmen from Liberia have begun arriving in Freetown today. At the same time, United States Army planes have started landing at the Lungi International Airport in Freetown in preparation for a possible operation, mounted from Sierra Leone, to evacuate thousands of foreigners from neighboring Monrovia. A group of businessmen, who

were on the first helicopter flight from Monrovia, told me today that they had to leave in a terrible hurry without no money even to buy food with, not to mention paying hotel bills.

A Ghanaian businessman, Stanley Blankson, who'd escaped the fighting in Monrovia, told me he had seen mortars and grenade shells landing on houses occupied by civilians and militiamen shooting civilians indiscriminately. He and his colleagues were evacuated from the hotel they were staying in and brought to the UN compound in Monrovia before squeezing on some of the first helicopters to leave the besieged city, but there may be many more such flights. U.S. Army units are now on the ground here in Freetown preparing for what now seems to be the imminent evacuation of hundreds of U.S. citizens from Monrovia. At least two C-5 transport planes have arrived and the number of (Chinuk) helicopters are now on stand-by at the Lungi Airport waiting for orders to fly. Brigadier General Michael Canavan, commander of the U.S. forces in Europe, is also in town preparing to handle what could be a tricky evacuation operation. The UN, which has a staff in Liberia of more than 200, is also putting together last-minute plans for a possible evacuation.

There has still not been any official statement on the events in Monrovia from the Sierra Leone Government but reports say that a large number of Sierra Leoneans have also been trapped in the fighting over in Monrovia.

Liberia: Plans for Evacuating Foreigners Reported
*LD0904162596 Paris Radio France International
in French 1230 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Translated Text] [Announcer] Fighting has jeopardized the security of civilians used as human shields or as targets. The United States is seriously concerned by the situation. It is considering evacuating its nationals and the foreigners who have sought refuge at the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia, probably this afternoon.

In any case everything is ready in Freetown, Sierra Leone, from where U.S. aircraft are expected to take off. Serge Daniel reports:

[Daniel] A jumbo jet is in a state of alert on the tarmac of Lungi-Freetown Airport. It is expected to take off for Monrovia any moment now.

According to the plan for the evacuation of U.S. nationals, the jumbo jet will land at a place which has been kept secret. There, helicopters will come out of the aircraft and fly to three or four destinations where U.S. nationals have gathered. Most of them worked either at the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia, or for nongovernmental organizations.

According to sources, other diplomats may leave Monrovia on board U.S. aircraft. Having said that, the evacuation of some of the foreigners in Monrovia is proof of the uncertainty concerning the outcome of the fighting which is taking place there. In the past, after the hasty departure of foreigners, the town of Monrovia has been the scene of deadly fighting. Serge Daniel, Conakry, RFI.

[Announcer] As many as 10,000 people are reported to have found refuge opposite the U.S. Embassy in Monrovia with the hope of being evacuated.

And finally, the president of Ghana has urged General Johnson to surrender to Ecomog staff. Jerry Rawlings, who chairs the Economic Community of West African States, believes that the ECOMOG must provide safe conduct to General Johnson.

Liberia: U.S. Reported Set To Evacuate Citizens From Monrovia

*AB1004072496 Paris AFP in English
0417 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Washington, April 9 (AFP) — The United States will evacuate all US nationals from Monrovia, the State Department said late Tuesday [9 April].

"Given the unsettled conditions in Monrovia, the United States government has decided to evacuate American citizens from the Liberian capital to locations outside Liberia," a statement attributed to spokeswoman Glyn Davies said.

No further details were provided as to when the evacuation would take place or where the US nationals would be ferried.

A State Department official who read the statement shortly before midnight said no further comment would be forthcoming from the US Government until Wednesday.

The US move came on the fourth day of factional fighting in Monrovia, which has driven thousands of Liberians to seek safety at a US Embassy housing complex at Mamba Point, considered one of the few safe areas in the Liberian capital.

US military helicopters airlifted a team of US commandos to Monrovia from Freetown, in neighboring Sierra Leone, on Tuesday to boost security at the US embassy and help US nationals escape the internal strife in Liberia.

The announcement to evacuate US nationals was withheld until the security arrangements were in place, another US official said earlier Tuesday.

At the US embassy compound in Monrovia there were 320 people including 110 Americans and the remainder nationals from 13 countries, Davies said.

It remained unclear whether the United States would shut down its embassy or maintain some presence in the Liberian capital.

Davis on Tuesday said Washington was studying requests for assistance from foreign nationals. Britain has asked the United States to evacuate its citizens from the facility.

Liberia: Cease-Fire Agreement Reportedly Reached

AB1004072796 Accra Ghana Broadcasting Corporation Radio Network in English 0600 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] After four days of fighting in the Liberian capital, Monrovia, the warring factions have agreed to a cease-fire. According to the commander of the West African peacekeeping force, ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group], General John Ineinger, the factions have agreed to withdraw their forces and to hold talks. The cease-fire agreement was agreed to at talks in the capital late yesterday. Under it, the former ULIMO-J [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia-Johnson faction], General Roosevelt Johnson, will now give himself up to ECOMOG or UN military observers, pending talks on the crisis. Hostages held by Gen. Johnson's Krahn supporters are to be released. The order by the Council of State for Gen. Johnson's arrest to face charges of murder, sparked off the fighting.

Liberia: ECOMOG Commander Interviewed on Cease-Fire Agreement

AB1004093496 London BBC World Service in English 0630 GMT 10 Apr 96

[From the "Network Africa" program hosted by Julian Marshal; italicized passages recorded]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] [Marshal] ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] believe they have got agreement from the warring factions in Monrovia to end four days of fighting. It all started, if you recall, when the forces of Charles Taylor and Alhaji Koromah tried to arrest the deposed faction leader, Roosevelt Johnson. His supporters then took refuge at the Barclay Training Center military barracks and seized civilians and ECOMOG forces as hostages. But yesterday, Alhaji Koromah approached ECOMOG to try to set up a buffer zone. General John Ineinger is the force commander:

[Ineinger] By yesterday evening, we had one of the faction leaders who is a council man, Alhaji G.V. Koromah, came to ECOMOG base on official visit. He was kind enough to have discussions with ECOMOG officials and with officials of government; some of them that have taken refuge in ECOMOG base. It was heartening to know that we have agreed to a cease-fire so as to allow ECOMOG to put in a buffer zone between the fighters of the other factions — that is, ULIMO [United Liberation Movement for Democracy in Liberia] and the NPFL [National Patriotic Front of Liberia] who are around the barracks — so as to secure the people who are inside the Barclay Training Center. This effort is on. It is expected that by this morning, ECOMOG would have put in that buffer.

[Marshal] But at the tail is Roosevelt Johnson, which gave rise to the fighting being resolved. Gen. Ineinger again:

[Ineinger] Definitely, there will be negotiations. It is the responsibility of ECOMOG to ensure that no party is marginalized in the entire process. Therefore, it was agreed yesterday that Johnson will surrender himself to ECOMOG, to UNOMIL [United Nations Observer Mission in Liberia]. We are expecting that wherever Johnson is, he will be able to turn himself over to ECOMOG.

Liberia: Krahn Militiamen Free Some Peacekeepers; Others To Follow

AB1004112996 Paris AFP in English 0949 GMT 10 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Monrovia, April 10 (AFP) — Some of the peacekeepers taken hostage by Krahn fighters loyal to wanted militia leader "General" Roosevelt Johnson were freed Wednesday [10 April], a member of the African peacekeeping force told AFP.

A number of Lebanese hostages also held "could be freed shortly," the source said. Some 600 people were taken hostage at the weekend after factional fighting erupted when police tried to arrest Johnson.

The United States meanwhile was evacuating all US nationals from Monrovia, in the wake of the worst fighting to hit Monrovia since a peace agreement was signed last year.

The factional fighting in Monrovia has driven thousands of Liberians to seek safety at a US embassy housing complex at Mamba Point, considered one of the few safe areas in the Liberian capital.

The conflict, which pits Krahn fighters of various factions against troops loyal to warlords Charles Taylor

and Alhaji Kromah, was sparked by an attempt Saturday [6 April] to arrest Johnson on a murder charge, the former leader of the Krahn wing of United Liberation Movement.

Liberia: People 'on the Ground' To Decide on Continuing Evacuation

*AB1004132296 Paris AFP in English
1222 GMT 10 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Freetown, April 10 (AFP) — A total of 111 US citizens were evacuated from war-torn Liberia on Wednesday [10 April] morning. Commander Bob Anderson, the US navy spokesman for the evacuation programme said.

He said 84 had landed in Freetown while a further 27 were still aboard helicopters as of 1100 GMT ferrying them from the Liberian capital, Monrovia.

Wednesday's departures were slowed by a storm in the Liberian capital, but "there is no hitch in the operation so far and we have not experienced any difficulties," Anderson said.

He was unable to say how long the operation would take.

Asked about the ceasefire reached Tuesday night between warring factions in Monrovia, Anderson said a decision to halt the operation would be taken by people on the ground.

According to Anderson, 420 Americans and some 400 foreigners, mainly employees of non-governmental organisations, are involved in the evacuation.

"We are having cooperation from all sides," he said.

Meanwhile the US embassy in Dakar said that around 100 American citizens, mainly women and children, had arrived overnight Tuesday in Senegal from Monrovia via Freetown.

A total of 130 people — evacuated to Freetown by helicopter and transported to Dakar on board a C-130 — were due in Dakar, but a fourth flight was unable to take off due to a storm in Freetown.

Several military aircraft were on standby at Dakar airport to take the Americans back to the United States.

No flights took off Wednesday morning, but they could resume in the afternoon, depending on the situation in Monrovia, a US diplomat said.

At Dakar airport, the US nationals were met by around a dozen US diplomats who gave them refreshments before they were transferred to several hotels in Dakar, awaiting repatriation.

A Liberian student, who managed to get onto the second night flight, said he planned to join a friend in the United States and would never return to Liberia. "It is madness, in Monrovia we don't know who is fighting who."

Nigeria

Nigeria: Defense Headquarters Urges ECOMOG To Remain Neutral

AB1004213396 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] In reaction to the Liberia situation, the Defense Headquarters said in Lagos this evening that it would want the neutrality of ECOMOG [Economic Community of West African States Cease-Fire Monitoring Group] to be maintained even in the face of the prevailing situation. The director of Defense Information, Brigadier General Fred Chijuka, who spoke with Defense correspondent on the issue, said Nigeria would rather want ECOMOG to be neutral so that the force can continue to enjoy the confidence of all Liberians.

Nigeria: UN Delegation Continues Fact Finding Mission

AB1004084996 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The United Nations mission on a fact-finding tour to Nigeria has paid a one-day visit to Maiduguri. Addressing the delegation at the Government House, the state administrator, Group Captain Ibrahim Dada, reiterated that the Nigerian Armed Forces are conscious that democracy, the rule of law, and the promotion [of] civil liberties, are important prerequisites for building a strong prosperous enduring nation. Correspondent Hasan Mohamed, reports that the United Nations delegation, headed by Mr. Atsu Koffi Amegah, has been in the country for a couple of days.

[Begin Mohamed recording] Group Captain Dada has warmly welcomed the members of the UN mission to the state, calling the international community to show understanding and support to enable Nigeria [to] conduct a smooth transition to civil rule program. According to the administrator, the United Nations always played an important role in harmonizing different views, reconciling conflicting interests, and initiating collective actions that give sustenance to communities aspirations of peace, liberty, and justice.

He noted that it is in pursuit of these high purposes and ideals that the delegation is in the state to contribute to the peace, stability, and unity of the nation at its hour of need. Group Captain Dada stressed that the country has

always been an ardent supporter of the United Nations Organization.

Briefing the administrator on their mission, the leader of the United Nation delegation, Mr. Atsu Koffi Amegah, said they are in the country to hold consultations with relevant federal government agencies and commissions. He revealed that they have had discussions with Ogoni communities, military administrators of River State, and members of the Ogoni Tribunal. Others, Mr. Koffi Amegah disclosed, include the ministers of interior and foreign affairs, the chief justice of the federation, the attorney general, and the National Electoral Commission of Nigeria, NECON.

He was also mandated to look into the various transition to civil rule programs of the Federal Government and make a report and recommendations to the secretary general of the United Nations. Furthermore, the leader of the delegation pointed out that they will, in the process of their mission, hold discussions with the press, trade union groups, and interview some personalities currently in detention in the country.

In conclusion, Mr. Amegah remarked that the team also had talks with the National Human Rights Commission, the National Reconciliation Committee, the Transition Implementation Committee among others. While in the state, the members of the mission will have dialogue with the various committees about their fact-finding mission. [end recording]

Nigeria: UN Team Fields Complaints Over Saro-Wiwa Execution

*AB0904213796 Paris AFP in English
2059 GMT 9 Apr 96*

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Lagos, April 9 (AFP) — The UN team investigating the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other rights activists heard both sides of the story Tuesday [9 April], as supporters and opponents of the condemned nine gave their version of events.

The leader of the UN delegation, Atsu Koffi Amega, told AFP in a telephone interview that the four-man team had heard contrasting views on the executions during their visit to Ogoniland, the home of the activists who were hanged last November.

"We saw a lot of things and heard a lot of complaints in Ogoniland," Amega said, adding that his team had met with relatives of the nine activists of the Movement for the Survival of Ogoni People (MOSOP) as well as with supporters of the four prominent Ogoni citizens whose murder they allegedly ordered.

The nine activists were sentenced to death after being found guilty at a murder trial.

While the Ken Saro-Wiwa camp demanded for "freedom, justice, equitable distribution of resources", the camp of the four murdered Ogoni chiefs was "more pacific", urging the UN team to be fair in its investigation, said Amega, a former judge of the Togolese Supreme Court.

The UN team said that it received "the understanding and cooperation" of military authorities in Rivers state, where Ogoniland is situated.

"We received very grand cooperation from the Rivers state government," Amega said.

He said that he was not yet sure at exactly what time or place the UN team would meet prominent detainees, including Chief Moshood Abiola, widely believed to have won subsequently-annulled presidential elections in June 1993, and former head of state, General Olusegun Obasanjo.

But Amega did pledge that the team would meet the detainees before leaving the country on Friday [5 April].

Since it arrived Nigeria on March 28, the UN team has been following its official programme strictly, meeting government officials, lawyers, pro-democracy, human rights and opposition groups, as well as visiting some six states located in the three main regions of the country (north, east and west).

Besides the issue of Ken Saro-Wiwa, the team is also investigating the plan by the military regime to return the nation to democracy.

It is due to report to UN Secretary General Butrus Butrus-Ghali on its findings.

Nigeria: Ogonis Hold Demonstration Before UN Investigation Team

AB0904200296 London BBC World Service in English 1705 GMT 9 Apr 96

[From the "Focus on Africa" program]

[FBIS Transcribed Text] Hundreds of Ogonis have been demonstrating in southeastern Nigeria today to show their support for the nine anti-government activists who were executed last year. The protest coincides with the arrival in Ogoniland of a UN investigative team. The UN is looking into the executions and into the work of the military tribunal which passed sentence on the nine, who included the writer, Ken Saro-Wiwa, and in spite of fears that the military authorities in Rivers State might crack down on the demonstrators, today seems to have passed off peacefully, as our correspondent, Hilary Anderson, reports:

[Begin Anderson recording] Many of the demonstrators who turned out were in black clothes as a sign of mourning and wave^t the leaves of trees and they danced through the streets. It was a noisy affair, with women and children wailing and chanting slogans in support of the late Ken Saro-Wiwa, the Ogoni rights leader who together with eight other minority rights activists was executed last November. There was a large gathering outside the home of Ken Saro-Wiwa's family, whom the UN team called on, and on many street corners people stood holding their heads in their hands.

The demonstrators first arrived shouting that soldiers had been shooting to try to disperse them, but there was no sound of gunfire. The military authorities said no shooting took place. The rallies that went on in front of the UN were peaceful and the authorities allowed them to take place without intervening. It was clear that the demonstrations were put on for the benefit of the UN fact finding team and they were carefully planned. Women began wailing on instruction from the leaders, some of whom were distinguishable by their black bandanas. The military authorities said that some of the demonstrators had been brought in from outside the region and were acting against the law, but the military spokesman also said no action would be taken against them. The UN, which watched with interest, has now witnessed the intensity of the Ogoni rights campaign. [end recording]

Nigeria: Government Denies Accusations of Election Interference

AB0504150996 Lagos NTA Television Network in English 2000 GMT 4 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Federal Government has described as baseless and untrue allegations that it interfered with the conduct of the last local government elections. The chief of general staff, Lieutenant General Oladipo Diya, who reacted on behalf of the government, said no politician was banned from contesting the elections. State House correspondent Mohamed Elabo has the report:

[Begin recording] [Elabo] Gen. Diya's reaction to the allegations of interference in the conduct of the last government elections was made when he met with State House correspondents in Abuja.

[Diya] The allegations of government interference in the conduct of the elections are untrue. Government did not ban any politician from contesting the elections. Government also did not dictate which politician would vie for the councillorship positions.

The National Electoral Commission of Nigeria, NECON, provided well articulated guidelines, which

spelled out the criteria for eligibility to vote and be voted for. Tribunals on the elections have been set up in all the states to enable aggrieved parties seek redress. I assure Nigerians that government will respect the verdict of these tribunals.

[Elabo] Gen. Diya expressed the happiness of government with the massive turnout of voters during the elections, which he said was a demonstration of faith in the transition program. He advised the elected chairmen and councillors to justify the confidence reposed in them by being honest and selfless in service. Gen. Diya restated the commitment of government to cure the ills afflicting the Nigerian society. He said, already government is implementing the recommendations of the probe panels set up to investigate key government parastatals, and added that the perceived delay in implementing some recommendations is influenced by government's desire to avoid what he called the fire brigade approach, which in the past addressed only the symptoms and not the cause of the identified problems.

Gen. Diya also gave government the thumbs up for the success in the clean-up efforts in the areas of drugs, banking malpractices, and advance fee fraud or 419, which he said has driven the miscreants in these sectors to other criminal activities like armed robbery. He promised that there will be no hiding place for the criminals in Nigeria as, very soon, he said the long arms of the law will catch up with them. He also announced that government will set up a tribunal for failed public corporations for the prosecution of those involved in running down the corporations. The chief of general staff also clarified the position of the Petroleum Trust Fund, PTF, in relation to the Federal Finance Ministry.

[Diya] The PTF is on its own. Money accruing from excess sale of fuel goes to the PTF after the normal statutory deductions are made... [pauses] like the actual cost of the fuel, once that is deducted, everything that is left goes to the PTF for management.

[Elabo] On the relations between Nigeria and the international community, Gen. Diya asked for more understanding and pointed to the success in the local council elections, which he said should induce the international community to invest its trust in Nigeria's ability to solve her problems internally. [end recording]

Sierra Leone

Sierra Leone: Government Expresses 'Concern' About Liberia Conflict

AB0904214396 Freetown SLBS Radio in English 2000 GMT 9 Apr 96

[FBIS Transcribed Text] The Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone has received with great concern and

apprehension the news about the resumption of armed conflict involving certain warring factions in Liberia. This news is all the more disturbing especially at a time when all hopes of restoring (?lasting) peace to Liberia has been heightened by the formation of the Liberian Council of State and a government last September in which all the major warring faction have been participating directly in the running of the affairs of their country. The Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone is particularly disturbed that violence, indiscriminate killings, looting, and massive destruction of property are [words indistinct] at this time in the capital itself.

The Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone, therefore, strongly appeals to all the parties concerned to exercise maximum restraint and strictly adhere to

the terms and conditions of the Abuja Agreement by cooperating with the African peacekeeping force in Liberia, ECOMOG, and by displaying a spirit of give and take. The Government of the Republic of Sierra Leone stands ready to work closely together with other parties within and outside the subregion for the restoration of peace, security, and sovereignty in Liberia. All the parties concerned, especially the warring factions, must be constantly reminded that the people of Liberia have suffered for far too long. The leadership in Liberia and the international community should, therefore, do everything possible to see that Liberians enjoy lasting peace and are allowed to pursue their lives in a peaceful environment.

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